

maximum effects. China denies backing such attacks, and foreign governments have declined to openly accuse Beijing. Yet, after the threatening test of the Chinese anti-satellite weapon, the reports are further illustrations of China's pursuit of new methods of unconventional strategy. Chinese military thinkers frequently debate these strategies, including the use of attacks on satellites, financial system and computer networks. "In the information age, the influence exerted by a nuclear bomb is perhaps less than the influence exerted by a hacker," a pair of Chinese colonels wrote in a key 1999 work on asymmetrical strategies titled *Unlimited Warfare*.

We must ensure the legal authority is clear for our government agencies in tracking and responding to cyber attacks. It is vital that we swiftly detect attacks, accurately identify the source and intent, and respond forcefully against all malicious intrusions.

My colleagues, our enemy needs to know attacking our cyber space is the same as attacking our homeland, and we will respond accordingly.

THE IRAQ WAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) is recognized during morning-hour debate for 5 minutes.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, today is an important day in that we are going to hear the anticipated progress report, so-called, by General Petraeus, who will be testifying in a short while before the Armed Services and Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, and the case that is going to be made is that there has been just enough progress to warrant staying the course in Iraq.

On August 6, I was in Iraq. What I learned from that visit that day was that in fact that the President's surge has failed and that there is no end in sight for the war in Iraq. I learned that first by talking with the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq that day who said that the night before that former Prime Minister Ayad Allawi had pulled his people out of the Parliament, and the week before the Sunnis had left, and then what was remaining of the Parliament was on vacation. And he said that there wasn't going to be any political settlement by this September, nor would there be by next September, and he didn't say which September.

The point of that is the reason for the surge was promoted by the President and by General Petraeus as creating the space for political settlements in Iraq, which have not only not happened but we have even seen steps backwards. But what is really important today is that people examine the so-called evidence that progress has been made, and that is why I brought a few charts here.

The first one says, is there really less violence in Iraq? Let's look at what is

counted, but, even more importantly, what isn't counted.

In the evidence that progress has been made, not counted includes Shiite on Shiite violence which is happening in the south in the Basra area, Sunni on Sunni violence. Car bombings aren't counted. And get this one, this isn't a joke. People shot in the front of the head are not counted; people shot in the back of the head are counted. I thought at first that was just an exaggerated joke. It is true. And, finally, the large-scale bombing like the one that killed 500 ethnic Yazidies in August is not counted. So clearly these numbers are very clearly cherry picked.

Then, if you look at a fact that is important to many Americans, every month in 2007, including the months, of the surge has seen more U.S. military casualties than the same month in 2006. In other words, more and more of our young men are dying. And while the Parliament was on vacation as some commentators said because, after all, it is so hot, about 120 degrees, our young men and women were fighting and dying in their body armor and helmets and heavy packs and weapons out in that 120 degree heat, dying at numbers greater than ever.

And, of course, not included in those numbers has been not only the number of U.S. troops that have died, but the dollars that have been spent. These are the dollars that we know about right now. Per year, not overall in the war, but per year \$120 million; per month \$10 million. Actually, I have heard \$12 million is the new number. Per week, over \$2 million. Per day, \$329,000. Per hour, we are doing this for 1 hour right now, almost \$14 million an hour. And over \$228,000, almost \$229,000 a minute is being spent in Iraq. And yet, the political reconciliation which was the goal of expanding the numbers of troops that we have in Iraq has not achieved that; that it has actually gone backwards. And so right now I think what we are seeing is a dog and pony show.

The good news is that a lot of people, unlike the lead-up to the war in the first place, aren't buying it. The front page of U.S.A. Today records 60 percent of Americans seek a date for a pullout: Public wary of report on Iraq, polls show. And there have been many other reports. The Jones report that says it is not working.

Check the information and be skeptical about the progress. Let's get out of Iraq.

THE IRAQ WAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) is recognized during morning-hour debate for 5 minutes.

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, the troop surge in Iraq has clearly failed. It has failed to achieve its purpose. The troop surge has failed not because of

our troops, but because of the failures of politicians here in Washington and in Iraq. This President's surge has been as successful as the President's boast to catch Osama bin Laden "dead or alive."

We now have three reports from entities at least somewhat independent from the Bush propaganda machine that confirm the obvious. The National Intelligence Estimate providing the thinking of the intelligence community that, instead of getting better, the situation in Iraq will get worse: "The Iraqi government will become more precarious over the next 6 to 12 months." The Independent Commission on Security Forces concluded that the Iraqi Interior Ministry is "dysfunctional." It is so bad that it cannot be fixed; they recommend that it be disbanded. The Government Accountability Office evaluated the surge, and it judged President Bush's policy using his own criteria with a clear "F," a clear failure, a fiasco, a fatal flop, with only 3 of 18 benchmarks having been met.

Today, General Petraeus can cite whatever selective statistics that his political bosses may permit him to disclose, but the facts are that each and every month this year has involved more deaths of American troops than each month, including August last year. And despite the ethnic cleansing that has already displaced 3.5 million Iraqis, the increasing violence continues to inflict an increasingly deadly toll on Iraqi families.

What is life like for those Iraqis who survive? Almost half earn less than \$1 a day; 70 percent lack access to adequate water; and 1/3 remain in dire need of emergency food aid.

When the surge was announced, the White House said "wait until the summer." And as summer approached, the White House said "wait until September." Well, now that this much overrated September is here, they cry "wait until next year."

The only real mystery about President Bush's September decision has been what new excuse he would offer to justify staying the same old deadly course. And as the American people have seen through the duplicity of each and every other excuse, the President has returned to his original ploy: 9/11, coincidentally, just as we receive this report on the anniversary of 9/11. He claims that "the same folks that are bombing . . . in Iraq are the ones who attacked us in America on September 11." That is false and he knows it is false. But fear with deception is all he has left to rationalize the pain of the many, the sacrifice of the brave, and the loss of \$3 billion every single week.

As usual, this President is dead certain and dead wrong. What he seeks is war without limits, war without end. Under his direction, General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker propose a war that continues for probably another decade, the "George Bush Trillion dollar, 15-Year War."

Now Congress must respond to the President's propaganda surge with a truth surge, with a memory surge, reminding America of the repeated false cries of "progress" and phony excuses that have only brought our families more insecurity. Congress must learn from the courage continually displayed by our troops. Appeasement will not stop these wrong-headed Administration policies. More blank checks will only drain our national treasury while fueling more death and destruction that only endangers American families.

And so today we note the surge has failed, but we respectfully and sincerely thank General Petraeus and all of our troops who serve America and are doing their jobs. But we know we must do our job. It is long past time for Congress to act. Our best hope remains a safe and orderly, fully-funded, phased redeployment that begins immediately.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 47 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Florida) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord our God, human history has witnessed down through the ages the battle of those who have nothing and those who have too much. It is the violent collision of opulence and poverty which makes the Earth tremble beneath our feet.

Lord, in our day, throw Your light of truth upon Your people; that seeing one another as brother and sister, they will not be blinded by prejudice or indifference. Rather, may all reach out with a compassion that will heal and establish mutual trust that will inspire hope in the disillusioned and even the hopeless.

May this Congress be an instrument in Your hands to mold a just and peacefully secure society, now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. POE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

CURRENT PATH IN IRAQ FAILING

(Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my disappointment over the continued lack of progress in Iraq. The sobering content in both the GAO report and the Jones report should finally be a wake-up call that some Members in this House need in order to act to bring our troops home.

The findings should make it clear to this tone-deaf Administration that our current path in Iraq is failing. The problem of sectarian violence in Iraq will not be solved by sacrificing more blood of young Americans.

After losing more than 3,500 of our brave men and women and spending close to half a trillion dollars, it is time to bring our troops home. To continue to ask our service men and women to make the ultimate sacrifice for a misguided policy is simply immoral.

GRATITUDE AND RESOLVE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the brave men and women of our Armed Forces, our local first responders, and our intelligence community for the incredible work they do to protect our Nation and stop the enemy overseas so we will not face them again here at home.

On the upcoming anniversary of September 11th, we must take this moment to reflect on the terrible tragedy that occurred 6 years ago, causing our response to this global war on terrorism. We must maintain our resolve against bin Laden who has declared this struggle the "third world war" with Iraq and Afghanistan as the central front.

Independent Senator JOE LIEBERMAN wrote in today's Wall Street Journal: "In Iraq we are fighting and defeating the same terrorist network that attacked us on 9/11."

We will succeed by remaining dedicated to promoting the safety of American families by denying extremists safe havens. And we are grateful to our servicemembers, professionally led by

David Petraeus, who works day and night to defend our freedom.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th.

TARGET: U.S. AIR BASE

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, apparently the U.S. air base at Ramstein, Germany, and the Frankfurt airport were targets last week of a foiled terrorist attack.

German authorities arrested three outlaws as they were mixing chemicals to make explosives. And guess what, all three individuals were Islamic radicals belonging to a fringe group called Islamic Jihad Union linked to al Qaeda—yet another example of criminals who kill in the name of religion and hate.

These Islamic radicals don't believe in building a better world, but believe in blowing it up. The war on terror is a global war whether we like it or not, and a fight between civilization and the uncivilized. It is a fight over life versus death. It is a fight over peace versus anarchy. It is a fight over the right to be left alone versus chaos. The international terrorists who wish to kill Americans must be tracked down wherever they are and dealt with as law and justice demands.

Those Americans who fail to acknowledge who these criminals are and have us retreat from this world conflict know little about the way the world is and seemingly live blissfully ignorant in the world of never, never land.

And that's just the way it is.

CREATE LEGACY OF PEACE

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as we approach September 11, all of us have memories of that fateful day. All of us recognize that in order for our Nation to be strong and to feel secure, that not only must we be in a position to protect ourselves, but we also must cultivate friendships and relationships throughout the world.

And so I would hope as we memorialize those who gave their lives and lost their lives on September 11, that we will renew our efforts to try and make sure that we can create for ourselves and the rest of the world a more stable, peaceful environment and let that be the legacy of those who gave the last measure of devotion, their lives.

LISTEN TO GENERAL PETRAEUS

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House